

76°10.586' W; then running 183° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°40.741' N, Long. 76°10.593' W; then running 154° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°40.641' N, Long. 76°10.531' W.

N. Choptank River: All the waters north of a line beginning at or near Howell Point defined by Lat. 38°36.746' N, Long. 76°6.626' W; then running 209° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°36.295' N, Long. 76°6.938' W; then running 170° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°36.006' N, Long. 76°6.871' W; then running 90° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°36.012' N, Long. 76°5.958' W; then running 88° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°36.030' N, Long. 76°5.082' W; then running 131° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°34.833' N, Long. 76°3.344' W; then running 30° True to a point at or near the north shore of the Choptank River, defined by Lat. 38°35.484' N, Long. 76°2.860' W.

O. Little Choptank River: All the waters:

(1) South of a line beginning at a point at or near shore on Hills Point Neck defined by Lat. 38°32.678' N, Long. 76°16.528' W; then running 245° True to a point at or near the northeast tip of James Island defined by Lat. 38°31.373' N, Long. 76°20.092' W; and

(2) West of a line beginning at a point at or near the shore of Susquehanna Point defined by Lat. 38°30.642' N, Long. 76°15.492' W; then running 329° True to a point at or near shore at the south end of Ragged Point Island, defined by Lat. 38°31.886' N, Long. 76°16.440' W.

P. Fishing Bay: All the waters northerly of a line beginning at a point at or near shore defined by corner 9 of Natural Oyster Bar 24-7, defined by Lat. 38°19.480' N, Long. 76°01.888' W; then running approximately 182° True to a point defined by corner 10 of Natural Oyster Bar 24-7, defined by Lat. 38°19.452' N, Long. 76°01.888' W; then running approximately 144° True to a point at or near shore defined by corner 5 of Natural Oyster Bar 24-6, defined by Lat. 38°18.557' N, Long. 76°01.065' W.

Q. Nanticoke River: All the waters:

(1) North of a line beginning at or near Sandy Point, defined by Lat. 38°14.803' N, Long. 75°56.385' W; then running approximately 96° True to a point at or near the shore north of Jones Creek, defined by Lat. 38°14.635' N, Long. 75°54.352' W; and

(2) South of a line beginning at a point at or near the shore at Sandy Point defined by Lat. 38°14.803' N, Long. 75°56.403' W; then running 43° True to a point at or near the shore at Roaring Point defined by Lat. 38°15.870' N, Long. 75°55.155' W; except

(3) All the waters of the Roaring Point Oyster Sanctuary enclosed by a line beginning at a point defined by Lat. 38°15.120' N, Long. 75°54.788' W; then running approximately 358° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°15.337' N, Long. 75°54.798' W; then running approximately 88° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°15.123' N, Long. 75°54.717' W; then running approximately 177° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°15.338' N, Long. 75°54.732' W; then running approximately 267° True to the point of beginning.

R. Holland Straits: All the Somerset County waters in Holland Straits:

(1) Southeast of a line beginning at or near Sedgy Point defined by Lat. 38°05.484' N, Long. 76°03.352' W; then running approximately 306° True to a point at or near Pry Island defined by Lat. 38°05.705' N, Long. 76°03.734' W; then running 21° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°6.664' N, Long. 76°3.283' W; then running 27° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°8.845' N, Long. 76°1.873' W; then running 140° True to a point at or near Sound Point defined by Lat. 38°7.883' N, Long. 76°0.852' W;

(2) North of a line in Pungers Creek beginning at a point defined by Lat. 38°7.165' N, Long. 76°1.877' W; then running 257° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°7.139' N, Long. 76°2.022' W;

(3) North of a line in Little Pungers Creek beginning at a point defined by Lat. 38°6.760' N, Long. 76°2.325' W; then running 175° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°6.691' N, Long. 76°2.317' W; and

(4) North of a line in Pry Cove beginning at a point defined by Lat. 38°5.173' N, Long. 76°2.098' W; then running 267° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°5.169' N, Long. 76°2.187' W.

S. Island Creek, Choptank River: All the waters northeasterly of a line beginning at a point at or near the shore at the north side of Island Creek, defined by Lat. 38°39.697' N, Long. 76°9.699' W; then running 120° True to a point at or near the shore at the south side of Island Creek, defined by Lat. 38°39.517' N, Long. 76°9.300' W.

T. La Trappe Creek, Choptank River: All the waters:

(1) Northerly of a line beginning at a point at or near the shore of Martin Point defined by Lat. 38°37.716' N, Long. 76°7.324' W; then running 109° True to a point at or near the west shore of Grubin Neck defined by Lat. 38°37.609' N, Long. 76°6.927' W; and

(2) Southerly of a line beginning at or near the south entrance of an unnamed cove on the east side of La Trappe Creek defined by Lat. 38°38.157' N, Long. 76°06.462' W; then running approximately 269° True to a point at or near the north entrance of an unnamed cove on the west side of La Trappe Creek defined by Lat. 38°38.162' N, Long. 76°06.937' W.

13 Harvest Reserve Area — Definition and Listing.

A. (text unchanged)

B. Harvest Reserve Areas.

(1)—(3) (text unchanged)

(4) Evans Reserve. The reserve consists of all of the waters of Tangier Sound [(Natural Oyster Bar 29-1)] enclosed by a line beginning at a point defined by [Lat. 38°12.746' N, Long. 75°54.004' W, then running approximately 91° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°12.74' N, Long. 75°53.564' W, then running approximately 182° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°12.486' N, Long. 75°53.575' W, then running approximately 259° True to a point defined by Lat. 38°12.44' N, Long. 75°53.863' W, then running approximately 340° True to the point of beginning.] Lat. 38°12.347' N, Long. 75°54.217' W, then running 316° True to a point at or near Lat. 38°12.685' N, Long. 75°54.627' W, then running 80° True to a point at or near Lat. 38°12.781' N, Long. 75°53.945' W, then running 74° True to a point at or near Lat. 38°12.829' N, Long. 75°53.731' W, then running 106° True to a point at or near Lat. 38°12.708' N, Long. 75°53.180' W, then running 228° True to a point at or near Lat. 38°12.401' N, Long. 75°53.608' W, then running 264° True to the point of beginning.

(5)—(8) (text unchanged)

JOSEPH P. GILL
Secretary of Natural Resources

Subtitle 02 FISHERIES SERVICE

Notice of Proposed Action

[14-219-P]

The Secretary of Natural Resources proposes to:

(1) Amend Regulation .06 under COMAR 08.02.19 Nuisance and Prohibited Species; and

(2) Amend Regulation .01, repeal existing Regulation .02, and adopt new Regulations .02 and .03 under COMAR 08.02.25 Gear.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this action is to define, clarify, and modify recreational fishing gears and the manner in which those gears may be used. The Department proposed recreational fishing gear regulations in 2013 in order to standardize rules across the State and make those rules more understandable for recreational anglers. In the intervening year, the Department has taken note of certain gear definitions that are not functioning as planned and certain rules for gear use that are either vague or in contrast to how the recreational fishing sector prefers to use the gear. Because the purpose of the

recreational gear regulations was to clarify the rules for recreational fishing, rather than for conservation, the Department is modifying some of the rules both based on feedback from stakeholder groups that had been negatively affected by the standardization and from fisheries managers that have noted issues with how the gear has been used.

This regulation creates two separate recreational gear regulations: one for nontidal waters and one for tidal waters. Changes to gear use in nontidal waters include prohibiting the use of projectile gears in Youth and Blind and Youth, Elderly, and Blind Trout Management Areas and prohibiting the use of jugs. Changes to gear use in tidal waters include allowing the use of dip nets, changing the rules for jug fishing by reducing the allowable number from 25 to 10 and to only allowed their use from July 1 to the last day in February in the tidal tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay, and allowing for an unlimited number of rods in tidal waters. Changes statewide include a prohibition of recreational finfish trotlines, allowing the use of minnow traps from any property so long as permission is first obtained, and allowing the use of crossbows to take snakeheads. The use of crossbows had previously been prohibited in the Nuisance and Prohibited Species regulation due to a statute which has since been removed from the Annotated Code of Maryland. The distance a minnow trap may be set from a property has been reduced from 100 yards to 100 feet. A number of definitions have also been amended or added to the regulation.

Comparison to Federal Standards

There is no corresponding federal standard to this proposed action.

Estimate of Economic Impact

I. Summary of Economic Impact. This proposed action may have an indeterminable, positive economic impact on the Department, recreational fishermen, and retail outlets that sell fishing tackle.

II. Types of Economic Impact.

	Revenue (R+/R-)	Magnitude
A. On issuing agency:		
Increased recreational opportunities	(R+)	Indeterminable
B. On other State agencies:	NONE	
C. On local governments:	NONE	

	Benefit (+) Cost (-)	Magnitude
D. On regulated industries or trade groups:	NONE	
E. On other industries or trade groups:		
Stores selling fishing tackle	(+)	Indeterminable

III. Assumptions. (Identified by Impact Letter and Number from Section II.)

A. The Department may see increased recreational fishing participation, and, consequently, an increase in revenue, through the elimination of the three rods per person regulation and allowing an unlimited number of rods per person. The amount of the increase in revenue is largely contingent upon the number of anglers who would

not buy a license when faced with a three-rod limit (or would fish in other jurisdictions with more lenient rod restrictions), but would purchase a license if they were allowed to use four or more rods while fishing. While it is also possible that in locations where angler congestion is an issue (e.g., public piers and shorelines), an unlimited number of rods per person could result in less anglers being able to comfortably fish in that location, that issue has historically not been a problem.

E. Any store selling fishing tackle may potentially see a positive economic impact from these regulations. Without a limit on the number of rods an individual may use, recreational anglers may be more likely to purchase additional fishing rods and reels, as well as other additional tackle. While it is difficult to isolate the impact of the three-rod limit in tidal waters on small business revenue, tackle shops noted a decline in sales in rods, reels, and other tackle after the implementation of this regulation. With no limit on the number of rods, individuals are more likely to supplement their collection of rods, replace old or broken rods, and purchase additional items such as fishing line, leaders, and terminal tackle such as lures, resulting in a positive economic impact to the tackle industry.

Economic Impact on Small Businesses

The proposed action has a meaningful economic impact on small business. An analysis of this economic impact follows.

The proposed action removes the three-rod-per-person limit in tidal waters that was put in place last year. Based on conversations with industry, the new rod limit coincided with and contributed to reductions in retail sales of rods, reels, and terminal tackle. To the extent the three-rod limit was a causal influence on the reduction in rod sales, this reduced level of retail sales would be expected to persist if the three-rod limit was maintained. Likewise, to the extent that the reduction in retail sales was attributable to the three-rod-per-person limit, retail stores are likely to see sales return to baseline levels with the removal of the three-rod-per-person limit.

Impact on Individuals with Disabilities

The proposed action has no impact on individuals with disabilities.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Comments may be sent to Recreational Gear Regulations, Regulatory Staff, Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Service B-2, 580 Taylor Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21401, or call 410-260-8300, or email to fisheriespubliccomment@dnr.state.md.us, or fax to 410-260-8310. Comments will be accepted through August 25, 2014. A public hearing has not been scheduled.

08.02.19 Nuisance and Prohibited Species

Authority: Natural Resources Article, §4-205.1, Annotated Code of Maryland

.06 Snakehead Prohibitions.

A.—C. (text unchanged)

D. Except as described in §E of this regulation, an individual may only possess a snakehead if, upon capture, the:

- (1) Head of the snakehead is immediately removed;
- (2) Body is gutted;
- (3) Gill arches are removed from both sides of the fish; or
- (4) Fish is filleted.

[D.] E. (text unchanged)

[E. Taking of Snakeheads.

(1) Notwithstanding Natural Resources Article, §4-710(g), Annotated Code of Maryland, an individual may shoot and take snakeheads with a bow and arrow, but not a crossbow, and snag these fish by means of hooks.

(2) Snakeheads may be taken by any means, as described in COMAR 08.02.11.04P.]

08.02.25 Gear

Authority: Natural Resources Article, §4-221, Annotated Code of Maryland

.01 Gear Definitions.

A. (text unchanged)

B. Terms Defined.

(1) (text unchanged)

(2) "Bow [and arrow]" means [a projectile with a thin straight shaft that is intended to be shot from a weapon operated by hand which is composed of a curved piece of material with a taut cord to propel the arrow] *bow and arrow or crossbow*.

(3)—(5) (text unchanged)

[(6)] "Crossbow" means a weapon for shooting a projectile with a thin straight shaft with an attached line that consists of a short bow mounted crosswise by the end opposite the stock.]

[(7)] (6) "Dip net" means a mesh bag of netting which is suspended from a circular, oval, or a rectangular frame attached to a long handle or rope [which is fished by hand].

[(8)] (7) "Eel pot" means an enclosure constructed of wire having:

(a) (text unchanged)

(b) If the mesh is smaller than 1/2 inch by 1/2 inch, an escape panel installed in an exterior wall of the retention chamber measuring at least 16 square inches made of 1/2 inch by 1/2 inch mesh [measuring at least 16 square inches].

[(9)] "Finfish trotline" means a single line from which hang, at intervals, multiple short lines which terminate with single baited hooks.]

[(10)] (8) (text unchanged)

[(11)] (9) "Fyke net" means a [fixed] stationary finfish entrapment net device, without a pound or crib, consisting of:

(a)—(f) (text unchanged)

[(12)] (10) "Gig" means [a hand-thrown] an implement with a shaft and three-pronged barbed point [used for catching fish] which is either thrust or thrown by hand.

[(13)] (11) (text unchanged)

[(14)] (12) "Gill net, anchored" means a gill net that is stationary in the water and secured to the bottom by [conventional anchors or heavy] weights on either end or along the bottom line which prevent the gill net from drifting freely with the tide or current.

[(15)] (13)—[(21)] (19) (text unchanged)

(20) "Hook unit" means a lure with multiple hooks.

[(22)] (21)—[(23)] (22) (text unchanged)

[(24)] (23) "Jug" means a method of fishing[, where the fish take the bait voluntarily,] that uses lines suspended from floating [plastic] containers or devices.

[(25)] (24) "Landing net" means a mesh bag which is suspended from a circular, oval, or rectangular frame attached to a short handle which is operated by hand to capture a fish [attached to a line] which is being caught by other means.

[(26)] (25)—[(27)] (26) (text unchanged)

[(28)] (27) "Noodling" means a method of catching fish using one's [hand or foot] *hands or feet* while in the water.

[(29)] (28)—[(32)] (31) (text unchanged)

[(33)] (32) "Rod and reel" means a pole with a line and usually a line winding mechanism, attached at the bottom of the pole, and is turned by a crank so that the line is wound around a barrel.

[(34)] (33)—[(36)] (35) (text unchanged)

[(37)] (36) "Spear" means a shaft with [a] one sharp point and/or [barbs] a barb for capturing a fish by piercing its body [which may also be known as a gig].

[(38)] (37)—[(39)] (38) (text unchanged)

(39) "Tip up" means a device used in ice fishing in which a signal flag is raised when a fish takes the bait.

(40) "Trap" means a single, bait finfish entrapment device, without associated wings or leads, and consisting of:

(a) An enclosure of various shapes covered with mesh [webbing] of not greater than 1/2-inch square mesh size for tidal waters and 1/4-inch square mesh for nontidal waters;

(b)—(c) (text unchanged)

(41)—(42) (text unchanged)

.02 Recreational Gear — Nontidal Waters.

A. Recreational Gear.

(1) An individual may only use the gear specified in this regulation to catch fish for recreational purposes from nontidal waters.

(2) An individual shall comply with all seasons, creel limits, size limits, and other species-specific regulations as specified under this subtitle and Natural Resources Article, Title 4, Annotated Code of Maryland.

B. Traps.

(1) An individual may not take or attempt to take fish with a trap in any trout management area described in COMAR 08.02.11.01C, D, G, and H.

(2) An individual may not use more than one trap.

(3) A trap shall be:

(a) Marked with the individual's

(i) Name and address; or

(ii) DNRid number; and

(b) Checked daily.

(4) A trap shall be set:

(a) In front of the individual's property, or property belonging to another, if an individual has received the landowner's permission, within 100 feet of the shore, and:

(i) Attached by a line to the property or a privately owned pier or dock; or

(ii) Marked by a buoy or pole and sign; or

(b) By attaching the trap to a boat that is not docked.

C. Active Line Fishing Gear.

(1) Individuals catching fish in nontidal waters may only use the following active line fishing gear:

(a) Hook and line;

(b) Rod and reel; and

(c) Handline.

(2) The gear listed in §C(1) of this regulation shall be used in a manner in which the individual is handling the gear or actively in control of the gear.

(3) No more than two hook units per line may be used on the gear listed in §C(1) of this regulation.

(4) Except when ice fishing, a maximum of three or a combination of three of the gear listed in §C(1) of this regulation may be used by an individual fishing in nontidal waters.

(5) When ice fishing, a maximum of five tip ups or rods may be used.

(6) Snagging is not legal in State waters.

D. Nonactive Line Fishing Gear.

(1) Individuals catching fish in nontidal waters may only use the following nonactive line fishing gear:

(a) Bank pole; and

(b) Bush-bob.

(2) Nonactive line fishing gear shall be marked with the individual's:

(a) Name and address; or

(b) DNRid number.

(3) Bush-bobs and bank poles may only be used in accordance with Natural Resources Article, §4-617, Annotated Code of Maryland.

E. Nets.

(1) Individuals catching fish in nontidal waters may only use the following nets:

- (a) Seines;
- (b) Dip nets; and
- (c) Landing nets.

(2) Except for a landing net, a nonresident may not use nets in nontidal waters.

(3) Except for a landing net, nets may not be used in waters described in COMAR 08.02.11.01B—H.

(4) A person may not bait a net.

(5) Seines in nontidal waters:

- (a) Shall have mesh no greater than 1/4 inch;
- (b) May not exceed 6 feet in width and 4 feet in height;
- (c) Shall only be used to catch minnows and other bait fish;
- (d) May not be used within 50 yards of the base of any dam or the mouth of any river or tributary; and

(e) Shall only be emptied from shore.

(6) Dip nets in nontidal waters:

(a) May not be used to fish for any trout species, walleye, striped bass, striped bass hybrid, northern pike, largemouth bass, small mouth bass, muskellunge, or muskellunge hybrids including tiger musky; and

(b) Shall be used in accordance with Natural Resources Article, §4-617, Annotated Code of Maryland.

(7) Landing nets in nontidal waters may be used to land a fish which is being caught by other means.

F. Projectile Gear.

(1) Individuals catching fish in nontidal waters may only use the following projectile gear:

- (a) Bow;
- (b) Gig;
- (c) Spear; and
- (d) Spear gun.

(2) Projectile gear shall have a retrieval line attached to it.

(3) An individual may use projectile gear to take any fish except for the following species:

- (a) All trout species;
- (b) Walleye;
- (c) Striped bass;
- (d) Striped bass hybrids;
- (e) Northern pike;
- (f) Muskellunge;
- (g) Muskellunge hybrids, including tiger musky;
- (h) Largemouth and smallmouth bass;
- (i) Snapping turtles; and
- (j) Any species listed as threatened or endangered under COMAR 08.03.08.

(4) An individual may not take or attempt to take any fish with a projectile gear in any trout management area described in COMAR 08.02.11.01B—H.

(5) An individual may not take or attempt to take any fish with a projectile gear in State-controlled community ponds or lakes.

(6) Additional Restrictions.

(a) Except as provided in §F(6)(b) of this regulation, a person may not shoot projectile gear within 100 yards of any:

- (i) Human being;
- (ii) Private or public swimming area;
- (iii) International diving flag;
- (iv) Occupied duck blind; or
- (v) Vessel other than the vessel occupied by the individual using the projectile gear.

(b) The distance restriction in §F(6)(a) of this regulation does not apply if the person using the projectile gear receives

permission from all affected parties within that area prior to engaging in fishing activities.

G. Hand Gear. Individuals catching fish in nontidal waters may only use the following hand gear:

- (1) Hand; and
- (2) Noodling.

.03 Recreational Gear — Tidal Waters.**A. Recreational Gear.**

(1) An individual may only use the gear specified in this regulation to catch fish for recreational purposes from tidal waters.

(2) An individual using gear in accordance with this chapter shall comply with all seasons, creel limits, size limits, and other species-specific rules as specified under this subtitle and Natural Resources Article, Title 4, Annotated Code of Maryland.

B. Traps.

(1) An individual may not use more than one trap.

(2) A trap shall be:

- (a) Marked with the individual's DNRid number; and
- (b) Checked daily.

(3) A trap shall be set:

(a) In front of the individual's property, or property belonging to another if an individual has received the landowner's permission, within 100 feet of the shore, and:

(i) Attached by a line to the property or a privately owned pier or dock; or

(ii) Marked by a buoy or pole and sign; or

(b) By attaching the trap to a boat that is not docked.

C. Active Line Fishing Gear.

(1) Individuals catching fish in tidal waters may only use the following active line fishing gear:

- (a) Hook and line;
- (b) Rod and reel; and
- (c) Handline.

(2) The gear listed in §C(1) of this regulation shall be used in a manner in which the individual is handling the gear or actively in control of the gear.

(3) No more than two hook units per line may be used on the gear listed under §C(1) of this regulation.

(4) Snagging is not legal in State waters.

(5) Additional restrictions on active line fishing gear used to catch striped bass may be found at COMAR 08.02.15.03.

D. Nonactive Line Fishing Gear.

(1) The only nonactive line fishing gear that an individual may use to catch fish in tidal waters is a jug.

(2) An individual may use up to 10 jugs.

(3) Jugs:

(a) Shall have no more than 2 hooks per line and no more than one line per jug;

(b) May only be used in tidal tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay;

(c) May only be used from July 1 through the last day of February;

(d) Shall be marked with the individual's DNRid number;

(e) Shall be attended between the hours of sunset and sunrise; and

(f) May be used to take any fish except for the following species:

- (i) Largemouth and smallmouth bass;
- (ii) Striped bass;
- (iii) All shark species;
- (iv) Snapping turtles; or
- (v) Any species listed as threatened or endangered under COMAR 08.03.08.

E. Nets.

(1) *Individuals catching fish in tidal waters may only use the following nets:*

- (a) *Cast nets;*
- (b) *Seines;*
- (c) *Dip nets; and*
- (d) *Landing nets.*

(2) *Cast nets shall have a radius not exceeding 10 feet.*

(3) *Seines in tidal waters:*

- (a) *Shall have mesh no greater than 1/4 inch;*
- (b) *May not exceed 50 feet in width and 5 feet in height;*
- (c) *Shall only be used to catch minnows and other bait fish;*
- (d) *May not be emptied from a boat; and*
- (e) *May not be emptied on the shore or in water less than 12 inches deep.*

(4) *An individual may use a landing net to land a fish which is being caught by other means.*

(5) *A person may not bait a net.*

F. Projectile Gear.

(1) *Individuals catching fish in tidal waters may only use the following projectile gear:*

- (a) *Bow;*
- (b) *Spear; and*
- (c) *Spear gun.*

(2) *Projectile gear shall have a retrieval line attached to it.*

(3) *An individual may use projectile gear to take any fish except for the following species:*

- (a) *All trout species;*
- (b) *Walleye;*
- (c) *Striped bass;*
- (d) *Striped bass hybrids;*
- (e) *Northern pike;*
- (f) *Muskellunge;*
- (g) *Muskellunge hybrids, including tiger musky;*
- (h) *Largemouth and smallmouth bass;*
- (i) *Snapping turtles;*
- (j) *All shark species;*
- (k) *American lobster; and*
- (l) *Any species listed as threatened or endangered under*

COMAR 08.03.08.

(4) *Additional Restrictions.*

(a) *Except as provided in §F(4)(b) of this regulation, a person may not shoot projectile gear within 100 yards of any:*

- (i) *Human being;*
- (ii) *Private or public swimming area;*
- (iii) *International diving flag;*
- (iv) *Occupied duck blind; or*
- (v) *Vessel other than the vessel occupied by the*

individual using the projectile gear.

(b) *The distance restriction in §F(4)(a) of this regulation does not apply if the person using the projectile gear receives permission from all affected parties within that area prior to engaging in fishing activities.*

G. Hand Gear. *Individuals catching fish in tidal waters may only use the following hand gear:*

- (1) *Hand; and*
- (2) *Noodling.*

JOSEPH P. GILL
Secretary of Natural Resources

Subtitle 02 FISHERIES SERVICE**08.02.23 Shellfish Aquaculture and Leasing**

Authority: Natural Resources Article, §§4-11A-02 and 4-11A-12, Annotated Code of Maryland

Notice of Proposed Action

[14-181-P]

IMPORTANT CORRECTION

The Notice of Proposed Action docketed as 14-181-P, which appeared in 41:13 Md. R. 757—758 (June 27, 2014), was published in error. The action has not been proposed by the Department of Natural Resources.

Subtitle 18 BOATING — SPEED LIMITS AND OPERATION OF VESSELS**08.18.28 West River**

Authority: Natural Resources Article, §§ 8-703 and 8-704, Annotated Code of Maryland

Notice of Proposed Action

[14-217-P]

The Secretary of Natural Resources proposes to amend Regulations .01—.04 under COMAR 08.18.28 West River.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this action is to update and clarify existing boating laws and coordinates of certain boundaries and to ensure safe boating on Maryland's waterways.

Comparison to Federal Standards

There is no corresponding federal standard to this proposed action.

Estimate of Economic Impact

The proposed action has no economic impact.

Economic Impact on Small Businesses

The proposed action has minimal or no economic impact on small businesses.

Impact on Individuals with Disabilities

The proposed action has no impact on individuals with disabilities.

Opportunity for Public Comment

Comments may be sent to Donna Morrow, Division Director, Clean Waterways, Facilities & Regulations Division, Maryland Department of Natural Resources—Boating Services Unit, 580 Taylor Avenue, E/4, Annapolis, Maryland 21401, or call 410-260-8773, or email to dmorrow@dnr.state.md.us, or fax to 410-260-8453. Comments will be accepted through August 25, 2014. A public hearing has not been scheduled.

.01 West River.

The West River encompasses all the waters of the West River and its tributaries southwesterly of a line [from Lat. 38°52'11.08"N., Long. 76°30'34"W., and running 149° True to the opposite shore, Lat. 38°51'11.14"N., Long. 76°29'47.62"W.] beginning at a point, at or near Lat. 38° 52.183' N., Long. 76° 30.575' W., then running 148°